



Lutheran Church of the  
**Resurrection**

[www.lcrchurch.org](http://www.lcrchurch.org)

January 1, 2018

## New Way To Do Coffee And Snacks On Sunday Mornings!

**Sunday morning snacks and beverages** provide a warm welcome to guests and gather our members together. So that we have plenty of snacks to offer worshipers, we'll begin a new system in January. Now, those bringing in snacks do NOT have to set up, take-down or even be here on the Sunday they provide snacks for! Instead, snack providers will be assigned one Sunday once every three months, but can leave their contributions of five to six dozen goodies (homemade or store-bought cookies, slices of quick breads, crackers, mini-muffins, pretzels, cubes of cheese, etc.) **in advance** of the Sunday they are for, in a marked container or plastic bag, in the freezer of the Faith Center. Everything else will be taken care of from there. So easy!

Will you join the team of people who are willing to be "snack providers"? There are 16 on the roster so far, and there are 8 more spots open, in order to fill out the 12 week rotations. Adriana Findlay is overseeing the implementation of the new system, and would welcome your participation! Email her [here](#) if you can be a part of this welcoming ministry, or if you have any questions.



## Greetings from your Interim Pastor



Epiphany Greetings!

I collect chalices and patens. Everywhere I go in the world, whenever I celebrate the Eucharist, I find a chalice and paten. There are almost 100 sets in my collection.

This Christmas I opened a large box labeled, "Fragile". It contained a chalice and paten. What makes these special is my grandchildren decorated them. Each contains the handprint of all five of my grandchildren. The handprints sometimes overlap. In places the different colors have run together. But this set of Eucharistic vessels is precious to me.

Resurrection is entered a phase of the Interim Process where each of you will be asked to make your handprint on the process we all share. In the coming weeks you will be invited to participate in a number of activities where your input – your handprint – is not only requested, but needed. This is the time where you will be able to express who we are and where we are going as a congregation.



Stay alert and join in by placing your handprints on this important phase of our ministry together.

Shalom

Pastor Berry

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## New Year and a New Face!

Please welcome Brady Mulanix to our Resurrection team!



Brady joins Resurrection as our Facility Maintenance Manager. Brady brings 15+ years of experience in machinery, janitorial, facility and grounds maintenance. Brady is originally from Sonoma County. After

serving in the Navy as a jet mechanic, Brady called southern California home until eventually relocating to northern California. Brady, his wife, Christy, and 5-year-old, Emily, reside in Placerville along with 6 horses, German shepherd rescues, and more recently, kitten rescues. Although he is a very busy guy, when Brady does have spare time, his real passion is Motocross. Brady can be reached at [brady@lcrchurch.org](mailto:brady@lcrchurch.org) or at the church office, 916-791-4661, Ext. 229. Welcome to Resurrection, Brady!

## Christmas Food & Gift Baskets Bringing Joy

Once again, our Resurrection family showed up in a big way providing joy to many families with Christmas Food Baskets and Gifts. Planning and preparation, purchases and volunteers under the leadership of **Barbara Peterson** came together, assembling baskets and gifts to deliver to families at Lutheran Social Services and Home Start, as well as to those contacting the church for assistance. **Fifty food baskets and gifts for 116 people were delivered to Lutheran Social Services. Home Start residents received 20 food baskets along with 21 comforters. Food baskets and 33 gifts were given to 6 families who contacted the church directly.** All of this would not be possible without the tremendous generosity and help of our members. Thank you to everyone for your outpouring of love this Christmas!



## Youth Group News!

**Teen Fundraiser requesting donations for auction.**

The teens are embarking on another National Youth Gathering next summer and are putting on an extraordinary event to fundraise.

We are currently looking for donations to auction such as **gift cards, time at your vacation home, service work, fine foods and items of value.** If you have any items like these that you would be interested in donating to support the teen ministry, please contact Pastor Ralph at [ralph@lcrchurch.org](mailto:ralph@lcrchurch.org).



Thanks for your support and plan to attend **Garlic and Goodies on Feb 24, 2018!**

**High School Snow Trip - January 19-21 - Sierra Bible Church, Truckee CA. Cost: \$75 due January 7.**



We're partnering with Good Shepherd again for a snow trip filled with laughter, worship, and freezing fingers. More information to come soon. [Email Pastor Ralph to RSVP.](#)

## Children's Ministry

**New! "Play and Pray Packages" for Faith Formation at Home!**



**Parents or Grandparents** - stop by the Children's Ministry Table in the Faith Center this Sunday, the 7<sup>th</sup>, and pick up a January "Pray and Play" package to use at home! For the rest of the school year, a new package will be available at the start of each month. Inside you'll find something fun to do together, a Bible theme or story to think about, and suggestions for a creative way to pray as a family. It's a new project from Children's Ministry to give families simple ways grow their relationship with God and with each other. Let [Adriana](#) know what you think about them!

## Worship and Music News

**Worship & Music will be meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup>** instead of the 11<sup>th</sup> this month, from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

On behalf of the Worship Team I want to thank EVERYONE who in any way helped this Advent/Christmas season to be so amazing. Because of you we were able to provide many opportunities to experience the wonder of God's love through the birth of His son.



It takes many hands to make that happen, from the ushers to the pastors, the Altar Care people to the choir and band directors, the worship space decorators, bulletin designers, the lectors, the greeters, the acolytes, and assisting ministers, Make a Joyful Noise Bell Choir, the Chancel Choir, Voices of Faith, the Festival Choir, the Praise Band, the pianists and organist.

Thanks to your devotion and skill we were able to have an outstanding Children's Program, a fabulous Cantata, three beautiful Holden Evening Prayer services, a quiet and meaningful Christmas Eve morning service, and four glorious celebrations of Christ's birth on Christmas Eve. All of these opportunities to worship our Lord were meaningful and awe inspiring. I can't thank you enough for all you did to help make this be a Wonder-Filled Advent and Christmas season.

God bless you all,  
Kathy Wood, Chair

## Helping Hands for January

**In-kind and Monetary Contributions** are once again in support of foster children through Mattress Firm Foster Kid's program.

**New, cozy pajamas** will be like a comforting hug to hurting children, a light of hope in a dark time. The pajamas will be distributed to local non-profit organizations and matched with foster children in need.



You may **place new pajamas in the Helping Hand baskets** in the narthex and Faith Center and/or by making a special offering via your offering envelope or online.

## News from your Property Ministry Team

### Prayer Labyrinth is Open

Our Grove Prayer Labyrinth has been cleaned of leaves and Oak Trees debris and is open for all.



### Property Ministry Team Meeting Time has changed:

As you may know our meeting time for the past few years has been at 9:00 am on the second Friday of each month. This time has precluded working member to join our group. In an effort to encourage new volunteer membership we have changed of meeting date and time to the second Wednesday of each month starting at 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

For those of you who may be looking for a way to give back to God's wonderful campus creation, this is your opportunity. You are most welcomed to join this great team.

"God's Work, Our Hands"  
Ed Babcock, Team Chair

## St. Olaf Choir Concert

**Music Lovers!** The world famous St Olaf Choir is coming to Sacramento in February. Below are links to their concert at Mondavi Center, get tickets early for best seats. Also provided is a link to **their annual Christmas Concert**. For more info call Al & Noreene Shaffer at 916- 663-5527.

**St. Olaf Christmas Festival** – December 3. Live streamed at 1:00 p.m. PST. If unable to watch live, you may purchase a download. <https://wp.stolaf.edu/christmas/>

**St. Olaf Choir** - West Coast Tour - Sacramento area on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at Mondavi Center UCD. Tickets now on sale through Mondavi Center. <https://wp.stolaf.edu/stolaf-choir/>

## Friends of Gathering Inn...



Over the last few months, we've been working with Director of Shared Ministry, Karen Idler, to assist in identifying people who might be interested in taking on a new role within our ministry to the Gathering Inn, and we're reaching out to you directly to offer the opportunity to lead. Our work with The Gathering Inn makes a profound difference in the lives of homeless individuals and families throughout Placer County.

In addition to all the people who serve on the day we host each month, there's a team behind the scenes that leads the planning and preparation. In 2017, our current group of coordinators stepped down.

We are asking you to prayerfully consider taking on a piece of the planning/organization for our monthly night of hosting. Tasks can be subdivided, as can scheduling, and thorough training will be provided. Our goal is to set up a scheduled rotation of leaders, each committed to helping 2 - 4 times per year (or more, if you feel called to serve in this way) in one of the following areas:

- **Planning the meal and shopping for ingredients and supplies**

Select entrée and side dish recipes. Determine quantities of ingredients. Shop for food and paper goods as needed (all costs will be reimbursed). Based on the recipes create a basic timeline for meal preparation (a sample will be provided).

- **Coordinating participant teams**

Each month, send the church communications director an email with newsletter and bulletin announcements requesting participants for hosting teams. Send out a monthly email to invite existing participants to serve. As participants respond, assign them to servant teams. (An email distribution list and samples of all documents will be provided.) Once all teams are filled, email the list to all participants, so they know their tasks and the other members of their teams.

- **Leading the cooking team**

On the day of hosting, post the cooking schedule and menu in the kitchen. Assign cooking tasks and facilitate the preparation of the meal.

- **Leading the serving and greeting teams**

Assign tasks and oversee place-setting, beverage set-up, general dining room coordination, buffet set-up, serving and clean up. All tables will be arranged in advance, no furniture moving is required.

We are beginning to plan for February, so if you would like to learn more about being a Gathering Inn coordinator, please email Karen Murbach ([murbach5@outlook.com](mailto:murbach5@outlook.com)) by January 19.



**Daylighters** will be meeting on January 30th. Lasagna, salad, and garlic bread will be served. We hope to see you all in Fellowship Hall at 12:00!

Questions, please contact Sue Ellen Williams at 1-813-495-3990 or Grace Betts at 916-276-2884.

### Mark Your Calendar to Attend!

Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, Dr. James Abshire, a Christian physician, who wrote a book titled **Live, Love and Let Go: A Doctor's Insightful Approach to Living and Dying** will speak in the Fellowship Hall following 11:00 a.m. worship.

Dr. Abshire wrote his book in 2008 after years of seeing patients encounter life's stressors and in particular, dealing with death. He felt the need to give people a positive, tactical approach to life and death that could not be accomplished in an office visit to a doctor. In 2010, Dr. Abshire gained new insight when he was given his own terminal diagnosis of lymphoma.

Dr. Abshire is an engaging speaker who provides tools to make positive informed choices. He offers a positive, practical and spiritual approach to the most difficult phases of life for us and those we love and care for. Mark your calendar now to attend! Reservations will be taken for planning purposes later this month. Contact Director of Shared Ministry, Karen Idler, [Karen@lcrchurch.org](mailto:Karen@lcrchurch.org) for more information.

### Exercise a 2018 Resolution?? Try Yoga!

**Join our class on Thursdays from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.** You



will learn healthy modified exercises emphasizing balance and flexibility while connecting body, mind and spirit. Instruction in both chair and mat Yoga are provided by Theodora Wilner who has inspired us to health for three years. Our class operates on six-week sessions costing \$40 per six-week session with a discount to \$25 per session for travelers who miss three or more classes. Your first class is free to help you discover the pleasure of Yoga and the camaraderie of the class. We will begin a new six-week session on Thursday, **January 4<sup>th</sup>**, 2018. Call Kay Valler at (916)791-1001 for additional information.

### For All the Saints

**Longtime LCR Member Publishes Book About Growing Up and Lessons Learned** by John Frith

In the late 1990's, Resurrection member **Dianne Lederer** was the editor of the weekly newspaper in Lincoln when the pastor of a large church in the area approached her at a Rotary meeting, introduced

himself, and made an announcement: "God told me last night that you will write a book."



Lederer thought to herself, "Yeah, right," but the out-of-the-blue prediction was always in the back of her mind over the years, and six months ago or so she decided to finally start writing. The result is a self-published book called *Thank God I Grew Up in Chowchilla*, a 75-page memoir of anecdotes about growing up in the small San Joaquin Valley town and the life lessons learned from them.

"In the introduction, I talk about how the old African proverb that Hillary Clinton made famous, "It takes a village to raise a child." It was true then. I grew up with band, church – typical small-town things. The book consists of 12 mental flashbacks of things that have happened to me and affected me over the years," she said.

Lederer moved from Modesto to Chowchilla with her family in 1947 and lived there until she graduated from high school and enrolled at what was then the College of the Pacific. After graduating, she earned a master's degree from Teachers College at Columbia University in New York before beginning a teaching career in Chowchilla in 1963.

A year later, she moved to Santa Rosa and taught there for several years before becoming a counselor and testing administrator for the San Juan Unified School District. She met her husband there, married, and in 1973 they built a house in Granite Bay she still lives in. They had two children – Jonathan and Julie – and five granddaughters.

After the couple divorced in the late 1980s, she applied for a copy-editing job at the *Roseville Press Tribune*. "The editor said, 'Write a 36-point headline,' and I said, 'What does that mean?'" (It refers to the size of the type, and the editor wanted her to write a headline that would fit in a certain width on the page.) "He said, 'I can teach you journalism. I need someone who knows English.'"

She worked for the Press Tribune and its sister paper in Lincoln as an editor for 10 years before taking a higher-paying position at the now-defunct Neighbors section with the *Sacramento Bee*. She ended her career back at the San Juan school district.

Lederer joined Resurrection shortly after moving to Granite Bay after learning she had a tumor that required surgery. A neighbor asked Pastor Paul Carlson to visit her at the hospital, and he did so every day, and then several more times as she recovered at home.

"I was a Presbyterian but I told Pastor Paul I had to go to his church because he was so nice," she recalled.

She didn't want several of her favorite vignettes revealed in this interview as the book is available on Amazon for \$12. (She recalled that her daughter asked how she could charge that price for a 75-page book and that she quipped, "It's worth it.")

Here are a few excerpts:

"Today my faith is the foundation of my life, but thank you to my mother for reminding me that having faith without treating other people with kindness and respect does not honor God and for teaching me, by her example, that love is shown in many different ways."

"Today I sometimes am tempted to make a quick judgment about a person because of how the person looks, what the person says or where the person works; but thank you to the man on the sofa at Chowchilla's First Presbyterian Church for teaching me that 'a quote from Shakespeare' might be hidden in that person's heart."

And for veteran Resurrection members, there's a recollection about LCR's long-time choir director Marian Stonesifer, who also is an accomplished organist. When the church's accompanist moved, Lederer was persuaded to fill in since she had studied piano as a girl. Stonesifer was not one to mince words and during a practice twice suggested that Lederer use less pedal. Finally, she stopped the practice, turned to Lederer and said "Dianne, you MUST stop using so much pedal. The only reason you are using it so much is to try to cover up your mistakes."

Lederer occasionally enjoyed forging "official letters" from companies and individuals as pranks, so she decided to send one to Stonesifer from famed organist E. Power Biggs, who the letter said had recently visited Granite Bay, had attended a service at LCR. "He" said the music was very good, then added, "The only thing I would suggest is that you ask your pianist to use a little more pedal."

She mailed the letter to a friend in New York who then mailed it to the church so it had an appropriate postmark.

At the next practice, Stonesifer read the letter out loud and the choir members laughed uproariously at the line about needing more pedal. But Stonesifer got the last laugh.

"She waited until the laughter died, looked directly at me, looked directly at the choir, and after a dramatic pause, slowly and firmly said, 'Does everyone here know that E. Power Biggs is DEAD?'"

"The director got a bigger laugh than my letter. She

had 'scored bigger.' I started practicing a little more and using less pedal."

**FOR ALL THE SAINTS** features stories of the lives of Resurrection members some of whom, for a variety of reasons, are no longer able to worship with us. We hold these saints in our thoughts and corporate prayers and reading about them is one way our entire community can get to know them also! Thanks to our interviewers, **John Frith and Karen Murbach**, who contact and set up interviews and write the newsletter articles.

Contact Karen Idler, Director of Shared Ministry, if you have a person you would like to have interviewed **FOR ALL THE SAINTS** at [karen@lcrchurch.org](mailto:karen@lcrchurch.org) or phone the church office at 916.791.4661 ext. 225.

### Words of Appreciation

**From Darlene Reber** – Thank you so much for your thoughts and well-wishes during my surgery. I am happy to know that I'm surrounded by love and blessings. Resurrection is the best! Thank you!!



**From the Raffety family** – We want to thank everyone for all their many prayers for Jim. Also thank you for all the warm and loving cards, flowers and food. We so appreciated all your kindness when Jim was so very ill. We love our wonderful Church Family and are so fortunate to be in this wonderful church family. We are so very blessed. Jan, Kris, Scott and David

### Resurrection Readers – New Reads!



On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month our book club meets in the library at 2:00 p.m. Contact Beryl Bakken at 916-791-1582. **Please join us!**

#### Here's what's coming up:

- Jan. 18** Death Comes for the Archbishop, Willa Cather
- Feb. 15** The Underground Railroad, Colson Whitehead
- Mar. 15** Lilac Girls, Martha Hall Kelly
- Apr. 19** Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus, Nabeel Qureshi

### Community Activities at Resurrection

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection has long been the center of community activities in Granite Bay.

#### Here's what's happening in January:

- **AA** meets each Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday each week in the Fellowship Hall. Times vary.
- **Al Anon District 10** meets Sunday, January 21 at 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

- **American Association of University Women** meets Wednesday, January 3 at 3:00pm and on Tuesday, January 16 at 10:30am in the Carlson Library.
- **Boy Scout Patrol Leader (PLC) and Assistant Scout Master (ASM)** meet Tuesday, January 9 at 7:00pm in various classrooms.
- **Boy Scout Board of Review (BOR) and Troop 121 Patrols** meet Thursday, January 11 and 25 in the Fellowship Hall and various classrooms.
- **Daughters of Norway** meet Saturday, January 6 at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Los Lagos HOA** will meet Tuesday, January 16 at 5:00pm in classrooms 5 & 6.
- **Mankind Project** meets each Wednesday at 6:30pm in Classroom 10.
- **National Charity League, Granite Bay Chapter**, meets Monday, January 22 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Nor Cal Children's Chorus** meets on Thursday, January 11, 18 and 25th at 4:15pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Nor Cal Children's Chorus Board of Directors** meets on Thursday, January 11 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Northern California Accordion Society** meets Wednesday, January 3 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Sierra Kronan** meets Monday, January 8 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- **St. Joseph Marelo** Seafood Pasta Dinner is held Saturday, January 27 at 5:30pm in the Faith Center.

## Shared Ministry Matters



### From the Director of Shared Ministry, Karen Idler

Resurrection church groups are encouraged to begin our meetings and other gatherings with a brief devotion. Groups may choose a devotion for themselves or use the devotion provided in the monthly newsletters. This month's group devotion is based on Isaiah 61:1-4 taking excerpts from a sermon by The Rev. Dr. Michael Brown, senior minister of Marble Collegiate Church, New York, NY.

"The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
<sup>2</sup> to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,

and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup> to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.  
<sup>4</sup> They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations."

### The Hard Work of Making Life Right

After Bethlehem's Baby had grown up and began to share his message of hope and renewal with the people of Israel, he returned to his hometown of Nazareth and led worship in the synagogue there. His sermon that day was clear, concise, and certainly to the point. He simply read this passage from Isaiah, closed the scrolls, looked at the people, and said, "Today these words have been fulfilled in your presence."

It is a biblical truth that the One God sends is gentle and does not force himself upon us. As we read in Revelation, he simply "stands at the door and knocks." Whether or not to accept the grace and the guidance he offers to provide varies among God's people.

For example, what could our country help the world look like, if those in power who proclaim faith in Christ would courageously and consistently practice what they profess?

What would churches look like if we began to do the same? Wouldn't it be exciting to witness what it means to "rebuild the ancient ruins," as Isaiah put it ... to see what would happen if we would radically and dramatically practice that which we profess? If we in our churches became as passionate about missions and justice and evangelization and worship and inclusiveness and kindness as we are about budget line items and what color carpet to lay down in the narthex, what miracles could our churches still accomplish in this world?

And even in our own personal lives, what potential lies untapped because we're determined to create our own dreams and forge our own paths without ever consulting the One who "stands at the door and knocks" but to whom the door is rarely fully opened? A man in a skilled nursing center, in his late 90s and confined to a wheelchair, spoke to me one of the most sobering statements I've ever heard. He simply said, "If I had it all over to do again, I would spend more time asking 'God, what do You want from me?' and less time asking, 'What do I want for myself?'"

It is hard work to make things right again, whatever those things may be, when we have allowed them to go wrong. But you and I are assured that we do not have to do that work alone. God sends Someone to us to counsel and comfort, to encourage and

empower, with grace and guidance, to help us do all the heavy lifting in making life what it was created to be. But the temptation will always exist to keep God's love and expectations locked away in a manger out back. Why? Because this One whom God sends brings his own agenda for us, his own building plan, which means that sometimes the plans we have made have to be modified or even thrown out altogether. That takes a lot of faith and a lot of courage. But the alternative is to imagine sitting alone at the very end of the journey, looking back, and confessing, "If I had it all to do over again, I would spend more time asking 'God, what do You want from me?' and less time asking, 'What do I want for myself?'" Because ultimately, only that which God wants will bring life.

**PRAYER:** O God of fresh starts and second chances, move again into our world through the miracle of incarnation. May we listen closely to the counsel of Christ that we might make life right again. In His name we pray, Amen.

**December Average Attendance 308**  
**Christmas Eve 800**

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**LOL!!!**

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